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Amendment

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DEC 18 2006

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

The Applicants thank the Examiner for careful consideration of the application.

Claims 1, 2, 7 – 13, 15 – 21, and 27 were in the application. Claims 1, 2, 7, 8, and 21 were allowed by the Examiner. Claim 27 was objected to as depending from canceled claim 26. Claims 15, 17, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the description requirement. Claims 9, 13, 15, 16, and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Ko Hideyuki JP Publication No. 2000-358131. Claims 10, 11, 12, 17, 19 and 20 were objected to as depending from rejected base claims, but were deemed allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the rejected base claims and any intervening claims.

Claims 9, 13, 15, 17, 18, and 27 are canceled with this amendment. Claims 10, 11, 12, 17, 19, and 20 have been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the rejected base claim and any intervening claims.

The Applicants thus believe that the application is in condition for allowance, and favorable action by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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